HIGH COST OF LIVING APPEARS ON DOWN GRADE IN UNITED STATES

Two of Largest Mail Order Firms in the World Announce Reduction—Authorities Believe Peak of Prices Has Been Passed.

A despatch from New York says:—Business men are wondering if Henry Ford started something to bring down prices, or whether he made his celebrated "slashing" announcement at the most dramatic time. Reports gathered here indicate that a good many more articles besides Ford motor cars are coming down.

General belief that the peak of high prices has been passed and that the direction of the curve is now downward was expressed by businessmen in many cities of this country.

The H. H. Franklin Manufacturing Co., makers of the Franklin automobile, was the first of Mr. Ford's competitors to follow his lead, and announced cuts in the price of its cars from 15 to 21 per cent.

Two of the largest mail order houses in the world, Sears, Roebuck & Co., and Montgomery Ward & Co., both of Chicago, announced substantial reductions in many lines of merchandise. The list includes men's and women's clothing, shoes, furniture, and a few staple foodstuffs.

How soon the consumer might expect to benefit directly and the high cost of living cut to the average citizen was a matter of speculation. There was a general agreement that the consumer would benefit eventually, but could not expect to get the full advantage of the wholesale reductions at once.

The consumer was expected to benefit first in lower prices for clothing and other manufactures of textiles, as the reductions in the textile trades have been more marked than in any other. Lower clothing prices are not looked for until next spring. In other manufactured textile goods further retail reductions may be looked for earlier.

Despatches from the larger cities of the country showed that substantial retail price reductions had taken place or were expected, the tendency toward lower prices having been in effect in some cities for several months, because of an increasing tendency on the part of the public to refuse to buy anything but necessities.

DELEGATES TO THE NINTH CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE IN TORONTO

Group of the British delegates taken on lawn at Queen's Hotel, Toronto. From left to right: Mr. Chas. F. Selfe, Aldershot; Mr. Chas. E. Musgrave, London, Honorary Secretary and Convenor of the Congress; Mr. Stanley Machin, J.P., London; Lord Desborough, K.C.V.O., London; Mr. Albert J. Hobson, J.P., LL.D., Sheffield, Vice-Chairman of the Congress; Mr. E. J. Bruce, J.P., Huddersfield; Mr. Arthur H. Smith, President of the Aldershot Chamber of Commerce; Mr. J. A. Darracott, Aldershot.

Great War Worker.

Pte. [illegible] of the War Service [illegible], Toronto, was [illegible] Ont., who was [illegible] and was [illegible] in Belgium, on the [illegible] by [illegible] awarded the [illegible] woman to [illegible] War, [illegible] War [illegible] en [illegible] service at [illegible] in

PREMIER'S APPEAL REJECTED BY MINERS

Government Proposals for Independent Tribunal Are Turned Down.

A despatch from London says:—Premier Lloyd George made another appeal on Thursday to the miners to accept the Government's proposal and refer the question of an increase in wages to an independent tribunal, or, as an alternative, to meet the owners and agree upon a scheme increasing the output, which the Government believes would give the miners more wages than they are demanding.

But the Premier's appeal was futile. The miners insisted that their demands for a two shillings increase should be granted immediately, and passed a resolution refusing to withdraw the strike notices, which expire Saturday.

Thus, unless the Government relents within the next forty-eight hours the miners will, after the last shift on Saturday, lay down their tools, and the mines will be idle Monday.

At a meeting of the miners' representatives during the day, Robert Smillie reported on the position taken up by the Premier and his offer. He said the committee could not recommend the acceptance of either of the Government's proposals. A lengthy discussion ensued as to whether the Government's proposal to submit the question of wages to an impartial tribunal should be referred back to the districts and a vote taken.

Mr. Smillie, as president, submitted a resolution to do this, but on a card vote it was decided that nothing had happened that required such reference back. Telegrams were sent to the various districts, calling on all workers necessary for the maintenance of the pumping and coking plants and other machinery and the care of the horses to continue working until further notice.

A despatch from London says:—The British coal miners agreed on Friday afternoon to suspend their strike for one week and to meet the coal owners in an endeavor to arrange with them a system of payment by the results of which they will simultaneously increase their earnings and output of coal. The decision was reached after a conference with Premier Lloyd George, Bonar Law and Sir Robert Horne in Downing street, and is believed in official circles to amount to a practical abandonment of the strike.

The coal owners, it is known, are anxious to have an agreement with the miners, and there is so much difference between the recent output of coal and the amount mined in normal times that it is considered there should be little difficulty in agreeing on a scale that will enable the miners to get the increase they desire.

SIX CONSTABLES KILLED IN MOTOR CAR

Houses Fired and Civilians Shot Dead Near Lahinch.

A despatch from Dublin says:—An official report issued at Dublin Castle on Thursday evening shows that the attack Wednesday on a motor lorry containing six policemen near Lahinch was more serious than previously announced. Six constables were killed, while soldiers who fired on their assailants assert that they saw four of them drop. The police allege that their assailants used dum-dum bullets, and that the wounded were fired upon and killed.

A despatch from London says:—As a reprisal for the shooting of policemen near Lahinch, says a despatch to the Central News from Lahinch, a party of uniformed men during the night set fire to eighteen houses in Milltown, Malbay, Lahinch and Ennistown. Three civilians were shot dead.

Castle Mary, the seat of Col. Longfield, dating from the reign of King John, was set on fire and destroyed by raiders Thursday night. The raiders gave the occupants of the castle ten minutes in which to leave the building.

Live Hog Industry Suffers Decline

Ottawa, Sept. 26.—The live hog industry of Canada sustained a loss approximately of $11,000,000 during the seven months ending July 31. The sum represents the deficit in hog markets during that period as compared with the same period of 1919. The loss in revenue is attributed to the liquidation of breeding stock during 1919.

LUXURY TAXES COLLECTED BY STAMPS

$6,000,000 Revenue Collected Last Month by the Government.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Stamps will be used after Nov. 1 in the collection of the excise taxes imposed on sales of luxuries by the budget legislation of the last session of the Dominion Parliament. Arrangements for the introduction of the new method of collection are being completed by the Customs and Inland Revenue Department. Stamps are being printed and perforating machines for their cancellation are being prepared for distribution free of charge to merchants dealing in taxable commodities.

From the luxury taxes the Dominion derived a revenue of $6,000,000 last month. Still larger returns are expected in months to come. Investigations by Inland Revenue officers have disclosed cases of deliberate evasion of the tax law and cases of non-compliance due to ignorance of the provisions of the statute. In a score of cases of deliberate evasion, it is understood, prosecutions are being initiated. Thirty auditors were recently appointed to check returns of tax collections in various sections of the country.

America Expected to Make Up German Crop Shortage

A despatch from Berlin says:—Two million tons of breadstuffs must be imported by Germany, chiefly from America, as the 1920 crop will be considerably short of the country's requirements, says an announcement by the president of the Imperial Grain Department.

The rye crop has been a disappointment and this year's harvest of breadstuffs is calculated to yield only 7,000,000 tons, while land devoted to breadstuff production has diminished more than 7 per cent.

Canadian Sugars Down 1 1-2 Cents

Montreal, Sept. 27.—Canadian sugar refiners in this city announced this morning that the price of sugar is to be reduced 1½ cents, the reduction to take place from to-day. This brings the price down to 19½ cents a pound.

The price of flour this morning went down 50 cents a barrel, being for sale to the public at $13.50 and to the bakers at $13.00.

Weekly Market Report

Wholesale Grain.

Toronto, Sept. 28.—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.73¼; No. 2 Northern, $2.70¼; No. 3 Northern, $2.65¾; No. 4 wheat, $2.49¼, in store Fort William.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 CW, 77⅜c; No. 3 CW, 76⅜c; extra No. 1 feed, 75⅝c; No. 1 feed, 75⅝c; No. 2 feed, 69⅝c, in store Fort William.

Man. barley—No. 3 CW, $1.14; No. 4 CW, $1.07; rejected, 99c; feed, 97c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 2 yellow $2, nominal, track, Toronto, prompt shipment.

Ontario oats—No. 3 white, 70 to 75c.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, per car lot, $2.30 to $2.40, shipping points, according to freights.

Peas—No. 2, nominal.

Barley—$1.30 to $1.35, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—No. 2, nominal.

Rye—No. 3, $1.73, nominal, according to freights outside.

Man. flour—$13.50, new crop.

Ontario flour—$10.40 to $10.50, bulk sea-board.

Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, $52; shorts, per ton, $61; good feed flour, $3.75.

Country Produce—Wholesale.

Eggs, selects, 65 to 67c; No. 1, 61 to 63c. Butter, creamery prints, 60 to 63c; choice dairy prints, 49 to 51c; ordinary dairy prints, 45 to 47c; bakers', 35 to 40c; oleomargarine, best grade, 34 to 38c. Cheese, new, large, 28 to 29c; twins, 29 to 30c; Stilton, old, 35½ to 36½c; old twins, 34c. Maple Syrup, 1 gal. tin, $3.40; 5 gal. tin, per gal., $3.25; maple sugar, lb., 27 to 30c. Honey, comb, new, finest quality, cases of 15 sections, 16 ounces to section, per case, $8; do, No. 2, $5 to $6. Honey, extracted, New Zealand, in 60-lb. tins, per lb., 26 to 27c; Ontario, No. 1, in 2½ and 5-lb. tins, 27 to 29c. Churning Cream—Toronto creameries are paying for churning cream 61 to 62c per pound fat, f.o.b. shipping points, nominal.

Provisions—Wholesale.

Smoked meats—Hams, med., 47 to 60c; heavy, 40 to 42c; cooked, 64 to 68c; rolls, 34 to 36c; cottage rolls, 39 to 41c; breakfast bacon, 50 to 62c; backs, plain, 52 to 54c; boneless, 58 to 64c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 27 to 28c; clear bellies, 26 to 27c.

Lard—Pure tierces, 27½ to 28½c; tubs, 29 to 29½c; pails, 29 to 30c; prints, 30 to 30½c. Compound tierces, 21½ to 22c; tubs, 22 to 23c; pails, 23½ to 24c; prints, 26½ to 27c.

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, Sept. 28.—Oats, Can. western, No. 2, $1.02; do, No. 3, $1. Flour, new standard grade, $14.50. Rolled oats, bag 90 lbs., $4.75 to $4.90. Bran, $54.75. Shorts, $59.75. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, $32. Cheese, finest easterns, 24½c. Butter, choicest creamery, 60 to 61c. Eggs, fresh, 66c. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, $1.65 to $1.75.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, Sept. 28.—Good heavy steers, $14 to $15; butchers' steers, choice, $13.50 to $14.75; do, good, $11 to $13; do, med., $7 to $9; do com., $5 to $7; butcher heifers, choice, $12 to $14; do, med., $7.50 to $9; do, com., $6 to $7; butcher cows, choice, $9 to $11; do, med., $6 to $8.20; canners and cutters, $3 to $5.50; butcher bulls, good, $7 to $10; do, com., $4.50 to $5.50; do, fair, $7.50 to $9.50; feeders, best, $9.50 to $11; do, fair, $7.50 to $9.50; stockers, good, $8 to $10; do, fair, $7.50 to $9.50; milkers and springers, choice, $100 to $150; calves, choice, $18 to $20; do, med., $14 to $17; do, com., $7 to $13; lambs, $14.50 to $15; sheep, choice, $7 to $8; do, heavy and bucks, $5 to $6.50; do, yearlings, $9.50 to $10.50; hogs, fed and watered, $21; off cars, $21.25; do, f.o.b., $20.

Montreal, Sept. 28.—Butcher steers, med., $9 to $10.50; com., $6 to $9; butcher heifers, med., $8.50 to $10; com., $6.50 to $8.50; butcher cows, med., $5.50 to $8.50; canners, $3 to $4; cutters, $4 to $5; butcher bulls, com., $5 to $5.75. Good veal, $13 to $15; med., $10 to $13; grass, $6.50 to $7.50; ewes, $6 to $7.50; lambs, good, $13; com., $10 to $12. Hogs, off car weights, selects, $20.50 to $20.75; sows, $15.50 to $16.50.

TO FREE THE WORLD FROM MALARIA

Gigantic Task Undertaken by the Rockefeller Foundation.

Washington, Sept. 27.—The Rockefeller Foundation, which recently discovered the germ of yellow fever, has now undertaken the gigantic task of eradicating malaria from this country, and eventually from the entire world, according to announcement made here.

Already it has succeeded in reducing the prevalence of the disease sixty-seven per cent. through expenditure of sixty cents per capita in four Arkansas towns.

"Malaria is a crippling and deadly disease which attacks or threatens the 800,000,000 people who live within the zone of its influence," says the Foundation report.

"Continued supervision in six Arkansas towns affords convincing proof that it costs a community approximately a four-fold greater sum to harbor malaria than to banish it. As a consequence public funds for malaria control operations are now being appropriated faster than sanitarians can be found to do the work."

GERMANS SEND INFERIOR COAL

France Charges Them With Evading Spa Agreement in This Way.

Paris, Sept. 26.—Although Germany is now sending to France each month the quantity of coal stipulated in the Spa agreement, it is said the coal will not burn. The French are charging the Germans with trying deliberately in this way to evade the treaty.

Complaints have been pouring in from factories to which the German coal was alloted that much of it is useless. It arrives in the form of briquettes of coal dust. The complaints allege that the bricks easily dissolve, and the supposed coal dust proves to consist largely of earth and sweepings. Imminence of a coal strike in Great Britain, coupled with alleged spurious deliveries from Germany will, it is feared, seriously handicap French industries in the coming winter, for France depends upon these two sources for coal. Predictions are heard that many factories may be forced to shut down.

The French Government will probably sent a strong protest to Germany against the class of coal deliveries made so far.

2,500 Divorce Cases on British Docket

London, Sept. 27.—The divorce courts reopen in a week after the Summer recess with a record docket of from 2,000 to 2,500 cases, against 1,471 when the last term opened. As 700 of the pending cases are left over, the courts expect the busiest time in their history until the Christmas recess. Activity of the King's Proctor to prevent divorces on perjured evidence—as brought out in the recent Bamberger trial—promises to lend increasing interest in the coming cases.

Amber is found black, green, brown, and white in color, as well as the usual yellow.

WHEAT BREAKS ON WINNIPEG EXCHANGE

Drop of 5 to 7 Cents Comes in Last Half-Hour, Due to Various Causes.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—Wheat broke 5 cents to 7 cents a bushel on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange on Friday, following a drop of 10 to 11 cents on the Chicago market. The close for October delivery at Winnipeg was $2.54¾; for November $2.49¼, and for December $2.35½.

Although coarse grains declined on the American market they held their own at Winnipeg. The break in wheat came in the last half hour at Winnipeg, and was said to be due to a variety of causes. Slacking of export booking, due to the threatened coal strike in Britain, and favorable reports on the Argentine crops were said to be the two main causes, but one wheat dealer on Friday night declared that he believed the falling in prices of commodities in the United States had a good deal to do with it. "If prices of commodities are to come down wheat must come down," he said.

The drop is of tremendous consequence to Western farmers, as the marketing of the wheat of the prairies is just well under way. Inspections at Winnipeg on Friday totalled 1,004 cars, as compared with 583 a year ago.

The Canadian price of wheat is still higher than the American. December wheat closed here to-day at $2.85½. At Chicago the price was $2.16.

War With Bulgaria Officially Ended

A despatch from Ottawa says:—War with Bulgaria is officially at an end. A proclamation published in this week's issue of The Canada Gazette orders that August 9 shall be treated as the date of the termination of war between his Majesty and Bulgaria.

Cork Prisoners on Hunger Strike Suspected of Murder

A despatch from Dublin says:—Sir Nevil MacReady, Commander in Ireland, said on Thursday that the Cork prisoners were among twenty or twenty-five suspects, the others having been weeded out when an investigation showed there was no chance of successfully prosecuting them. But against the eleven hunger strikers the Government considered it had a strong case in each instance, and every case involved the taking of life.

Sicily Suffers from Earthquake

London Sept. 27.—A violent earthquake is reported to have occurred at Giarre, Sicily, according to a Rome despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co. Giarre lies at the base of Mount Etna; the quake lasted ten seconds. One village was destroyed and many persons were injured.

New President of France.

Premier Alexandre Millerand, who succeeds M. Deschanel as President of the French Republic.

25 Persons in Hospitals Result of Belfast Riots

Belfast, Sept. 27.—Twenty-five persons are under treatment in the hospitals here for injuries received in the week-end disturbances.

FEW NEW SETTLERS UNTIL NEXT YEAR

No Immediate Rush of British Immigration to Canada, Says Calder.

Ottawa, Sept. 26.—Probably a year, or slightly more than a year, will elapse before the movement from Great Britain to Canada reaches a large number, in the opinion of Hon. Jas. A. Calder, Minister of Immigration and Colonization. Mr. Calder, who has just returned to Ottawa, after an official trip to England and Scotland, finds that shipping difficulties are at present operating to retard the movement. Moreover, Canadian immigration agents have instructions to take every precaution to see that no more people emigrate to the Dominion than can at present be absorbed.

They advise persons not [illegible] employment within a reasonable time of their arrival in Canada [illegible] their departure from England. Shipping agents, too, in view of the difficulties to which they are liable for bringing unsuitable persons [illegible] Dominion, are careful to scrutinize applications for passages. In consequence, Mr. Calder asserts that Canada is receiving a better and more suitable class of new citizens than ever before.

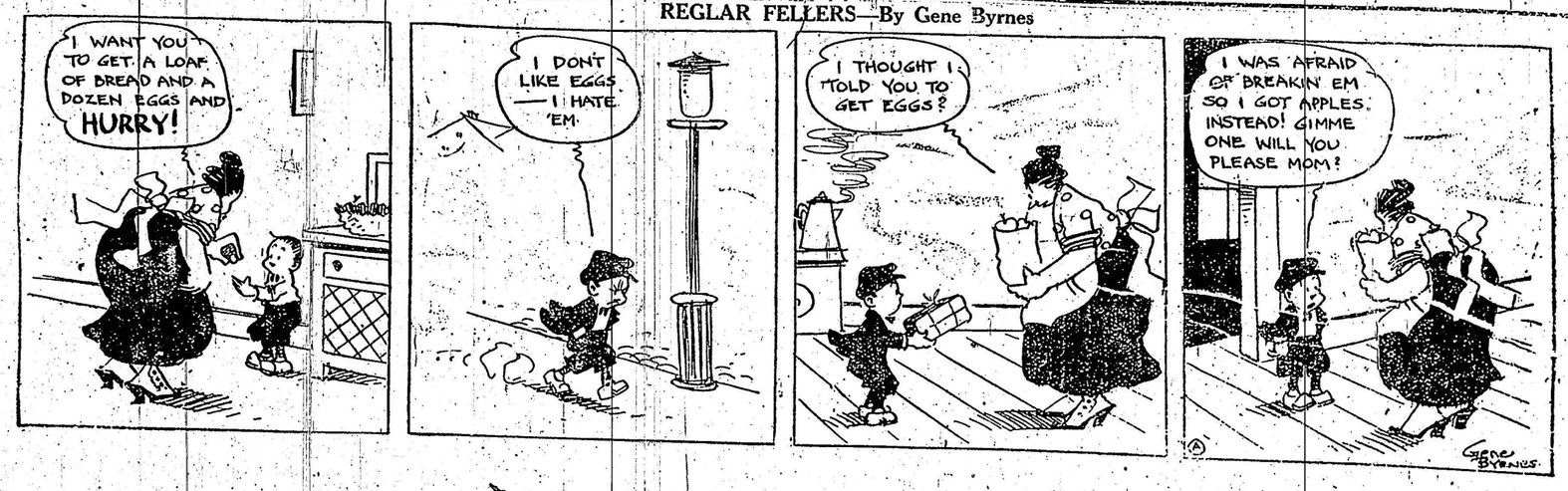
The shipping situation, however, presents an immediate problem. The volume of immigration, he interviewed officials of the Atlantic shipping companies and was informed that accommodation is coming to Canada within a year. In so far as immigration is concerned, it will depend upon economic conditions. For instance, Mr. Calder said, there is at present a shortage of farm labor in England as in Canada, and men who were trained for farm employment during the war. They are leaving that field of service, however, in droves for Canada, and there is a feeling among the employment situation in the near future would tend to send more men to Canada. It has been ascertained, moreover, that at Great Britain's population over present 600,000 to 1,200,000 people left the same time, the shipping situation was not to the extent it would reach probably a maximum of 1922.

GERMANY INTERNS 51,000 SOLDIERS

Clad in Field-Grey, Long Have Gone.

[illegible]

Represent Canada at League of Nations Assembly

A despatch from Ottawa says: Hon. George Foster and Hon. [illegible] will sail for Europe on October [illegible] to represent Canada at the meetings of the League of Nations, which begins its deliberations on November 15th. The name of the Dominion's third representative has not yet been definitely announced. Sir Robert Borden and Hon. N. W. Rowell, president of the Privy Council, have both been mentioned as probable [illegible] of the Government.

REGLAR FELLERS—By Gene Byrnes